

# Washington Correlator

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**Abstract** This report summarizes the activities of the Washington Correlator for the year 2014. The Washington Correlator provides up to 80 hours of attended processing per week plus up to 40 hours of unattended operation, primarily supporting Earth Orientation and astrometric observations.

## 1 General Information

The Washington Correlator (WACO) is located at and staffed by the U.S. Naval Observatory (USNO) in Washington, DC, USA. The correlator is sponsored and funded by the National Earth Orientation Service (NEOS), which is a joint effort of the USNO and NASA. Dedicated to processing geodetic and astrometric VLBI observations, the facility spent 100 percent of its time on these sessions. All of the weekly IVS-R4 sessions, all of the IVS-INT01 Intensives, and the APSG and CRF sessions were processed at WACO. The facility houses the WACO DiFX correlator.

## 2 Activities during the Past Year

- The Washington Correlator made the transition from the ageing Mark IV correlator to the new DiFX software correlator. Work to achieve the final configuration of the DiFX correlator, its associated servers, and its network is ongoing.

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- The correlator staff continues the testing and repair of Mark 5 modules.
- Intensive observations from Kokee Park and Wettzell were routinely transferred via e-VLBI during 2014. 24-hour sessions from both Hobart antennas, Katherine, Yarragadee, Warkworth, Ny-Ålesund, Fortaleza, Yebes, Noto, HartRAO, Wettzell, Tsukuba, Aira, Kashima, Chichijima, and Sintotu were also transferred by high-speed networks.
- Table 1 lists the experiments processed during 2014.

**Table 1** Experiments processed during 2014.

57 IVS-R4 or R1 sessions
9 CRF (Celestial Reference Frame)
222 Intensives

## 3 Staff

The Washington Correlator is under the management and scientific direction of the Earth Orientation Department of the U.S. Naval Observatory. Table 2 lists staff and their duties.

## 4 Future Plans

Transition to the DiFX Software correlator took place in October of 2014. Additional work to achieve the fi-

**Table 2** Staff.

<b>Staff</b>	<b>Duties</b>
David Hall	Chief VLBI Operations Division
Daniel Veillette	VLBI Correlator Project Manager
Bruce Thornton	Lead Physical Science Technician
Roxanne Inniss	Media Librarian
Maria Davis	Physical Science Technician

nal planned configuration of the DiFX correlator and its associated servers and network is ongoing.